

## Message Text

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41

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 /020 W

----- 119533

R 150716Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6936

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 3185

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC HU

SUBJECT: CU/ARTS: LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (LAPO)

1. STANDING IN LINE, COMMON IN SOME COUNTRIES BUT RARELY SEEN IN HUNGARY THESE DAYS, BRIEFLY RETURNED TO BUDAPEST ONE DAY LAST WEEK IN A REALLY BIG WAY. BUT, THE LONGEST LINE IN DOWNTOWN BUDAPEST SINCE THE POST WORLD WAR II DAYS DID NOT FORM FOR BREAD OR MEAT. INSTEAD, HUNDREDS OF HUNGARIANS AT A TIME SNAKED THEIR WAY PATIENTLY THROUGH VOROSMARTY SQUARE HOPING TO GET SEASON TICKETS FOR THE FALL CONCERT SEASON.

2. THE REASON; THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC. THE TWO LAPO CONCERTS WERE THE KEY ATTRACTION IN TWO SEPARATE EIGHT-CONCERT SERIES, SOLD AT FOUR TIMES NORMAL PRICES. AND BY THE END OF THE DAY NOT A SINGLE TICKET WAS LEFT.

3. THE LENGTH OF THE LINE, AND THE INTENSE JOSTLING TOTALLY UNCHARACTERISTIC OF HUNGARIANS WAS SO STARTLING TO PASSERS-BY, THAT LARGE CROWDS FORMED AROUND THE LINES, AND THE "HAPPENING" MADE ALMOST ALL THE DAILY PAPERS. THE PAPERS OF COURSE GAVE NO CREDIT TO LAPO, THEY JUST ATTRIBUTED THE WHOLE THING

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TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S GROWING INTEREST IN MUSIC.

BUT THE PEOPLE KNOW WHY THEY STOOD IN LINE. MAN DOES  
NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE.  
MUDD

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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